

Traffic Advisory Committee Public Hearing--Minutes for Thursday, November 3, 2005.

In attendance: M.J. Frisoli, L. Nickens, A. Masciari, T. Turner, T. Riley, T. Olson, P. Curro.

Also attending: G. Clancy, Sgt. Hamilton, five Belmont residents.

7:00 p.m. Meeting called to order.

(7:03 p.m.) *Administrative matters.* Minutes from September 8 and September 15 were reviewed by the TAC. LN moved that the minutes be approved as submitted, (TR 2nd). Minutes approved 4-0. TR asked GC about the delay on the Bright/Blanchard/Grove roundabout, as to whether the contractor was assessed a penalty for late delivery of the detailed drawings. GC reported that any such penalty would be assessed by the City of Cambridge.

(7:06 p.m.) There was some discussion of whether the detailed plans of the Belmont/Trapelo Corridor have been posted on the town web site. GC reported that due to the large size of the file, that it was not yet available, but that there was some work being done to remedy that issue.

(7:11 p.m.) MF gave the TAC a brief report on the Tri-community transportation subcommittee of the Metropolitan Planning Organization. She reported that there will be three more meetings to discuss transportation and development issues in the Lexington, Belmont, Waltham region. LN asked whether this committee might address the long-standing need for a shuttle bus to link these three towns.

(7:19 p.m.) *Belmont/Trapelo Corridor Update.* MF received from BSC a draft of the application to the Transportation Improvement Program. Final submission of the application is awaiting a letter of support from the Town of Watertown. It is possible that 25% design work could begin as early as Spring 2006. The initial cost estimate is \$8.1M (estimated in 2005 dollars).

(7:45 p.m.) *Sherman Street Parking.* There is a significant history of resident complaints regarding vehicle parking near the WinnBrook elementary school. Jeff Conti, the Assistant Town Manager, has suggested that several changes be made in the traffic control measures in the area. Specifically, he recommended that the STOP sign be moved to control vehicles traveling on Sherman Street, rather than Waterhouse Rd. (as it is currently).

The traffic issues surrounding drop-off/pick-up for students, particularly the preschool at WinnBrook, has been visited many times. KH reported that a number of minor changes have been implemented on the Cross Street side of the school have improved traffic flow considerably, but problems do remain on the Sherman Street side.

MF opened the discussion to the audience. There were several ideas proposed for solving the problems with congestion. In particular, it was suggested that Sherman St. be widened to allow parking without unduly narrowing the right-of-way. GC asked to visit the site to investigate other possible solutions.

MF proposed discussing this matter again at the December 1, 2005 TAC meeting, after GC has had the opportunity to study the situation. Should the situation warrant that some action be taken, MF proposed that GC be authorized to take such action. LN moved that the TAC support any necessary action that GC might deem appropriate. TR 2nd. Motion passed 6-0.

(8:48 p.m.) GC introduced a letter from a resident regarding a traffic pattern request. This matter will be placed on the December 1, 2005 TAC meeting

Meeting Adjourned 8:51 p.m.